

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONROV 06612 041706Z

73

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 SS-20 SPC-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W
----- 030895

R 041607Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0308

C O N F I D E N T I A L 6612

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BMEP, LI

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL INQUIRY

REF: STATE 235432

1. EMB INTERPRETS REFTEL AS ASKING EMBASSY'S ADVICE ON WHETHER OR NOT U.S. FIRM SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT BRIBE GOL MINISTER AND WHETHER OR NOT, ONCE BRIBED, HE IN POSITION INFLUENCE GOL DECISION ON CONTRACTOR SELECTION.
2. EMBOFFS FREQUENTLY CALLED UPON FIELD THIS QUESTION. OUR POLICY IS TELL THE U.S. CONTRACTOR THAT HE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT ATTEMPT BRIBE ANY GOL OFFICIAL. OUR ADVICE IS, IF AFTER PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS U.S. FIRM FEELS FIX MAY BE NECESSARY THAT THEY OBTAIN WELL-CONNECTED LOCAL ATTORNEY, PROVIDE HIM WITH SUFFICIENT "NO QUESTIONS ASKED" FUNDS OBTAIN CONTRACT. U.S. FIRMS SHOULD NEVER HAVE ANY FORMAL KNOWLEDGE WHO OR HOW MUCH.
3. EMB REALIZES PAYMENT OF UNACCOUNTABLE SUMS TO ATTORNEY OPENS DOOR POSSIBILITY HE MAY CLAIM OFFICIALS FIXED AND POCKET MONEY. HOWEVER, BIDDER MUST EVALUATE RISK IN VIEW POTENTIAL GAINS.
4. RE MATTER AT HAND - EMB NOT AWARE WHAT IF ANY INFLUENCE BRIGHT MAY BE ABLE EXERT IN DECISIONS ON COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT. HE IS CABINET-LEVEL OFFICIAL AND HIS ADVOCACY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MONROV 06612 041706Z

WOULD NOT HURT NORTH ELECTRIC'S CASE. HOWEVER, EQUALLY

VENAL OFFICIALS IN POSITIONS MORE DIRECTLY RELATED PUBLIC UTILITIES AND COMMUNICATIONS WOULD SEEM HAVE GREATER INFLUENCE IN FINAL DECISION.

5. COMMENT: EMB SURPRISED TO RECEIVE TELEGRAM. EMBOFFS AWARE THIS SORT OF THING GOES ON IN LIBERIA BUT ARE UNWILLING COUNSEL U.S. FIRM WHETHER OR NOT INDULGE IN IT. CONSEQUENCES SHOULD BE OBVIOUS DEPT. - A FLAT RECOMMENDATION AGAINST COULD COST U.S. BIDDER A PROBABLE CONTRACT AND CAUSE EMBOFFS LOOK NAIVE RE LIBERIAN MILIEU. RECOMMENDATION FOR COULD BACKFIRE IF BIDDER UNSUCCESSFUL EVEN AFTER PLACING MONEY AT EMBASSY'S SUGGESTION.
MANFULL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MONROV06612
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MONROVIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731247/aaaabifl.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 235432
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <30-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMERCIAL INQUIRY
TAGS: BEXP, LI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005